

REMARKS

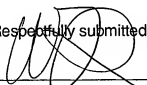
Claims 11-13, 16-19, 22-25, 28-31 and 34-42 are currently pending and under consideration. By means of the present amendment, claims 11, 17, 22, 23 29 have been amended in order to better point out and distinctly claim the invention of the present application. In particular, claim 17 has been amended in order to address the issues raised in the Advisory Action of August 15, 2006. Applicants also believe that the miscellaneous issues pointed out by the Examiner have been cured by the present amendment. Applicant is filing the Notice of Appeal in order to prevent the Application from lapsing.

Claims 11-13, 16-19, 22-25, 28-31 and 34-42 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-7 of U.S. Patent No. 6,524,728. Although Applicants disagree, enclosed herewith is a terminal disclaimer to overcome the rejection.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request the issuance of a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner desires, Applicants welcome a telephone interview to expedite prosecution and is available at the telephone number below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-3140.

Respectfully submitted,


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